

## Art Shabbaton 2002: Be Holy for I Am Holy: Expressions from Within

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav proudly presents the Second Annual Art Shabbaton on April 19, 20 and 21. Join us as Congregation Sha'ar Zahav bursts at the seams with *midrash* (traditional text study), *klezmer* music, poetry, beading, folk dancing, crocheting, singing, painting, cartooning, mosaic, improv and a myriad of creative options to express your Jewish spirituality and divine creativity. No artistic ability required! Cost for the entire weekend is \$18 for CSZ members, \$25 for non-members, no cost for children. Pre-registration is encouraged, and the price increases \$5 on April 12. This year's Art Shabbaton is not to be missed!

### Invite a Friend to Shul

### Shabbat Across America

Friday, March 8, 7 pm

Come one, come all to our annual Shabbat Across America celebration! The Membership Committee asks everyone to invite a friend and come to shul early on Friday, March 8 from 7-8 pm before services.

Last year, we packed the house! This year, you'll have a chance to meet other members and welcome neighbors interested in our synagogue. Whether you're new, not yet a member or one of the "old-timers," come and enjoy a special evening to meet and greet others. There will be food, activities and information on how to get involved at CSZ. In short, there's something for everyone.

For more information, to RSVP, or to volunteer to help host, please contact the CSZ office.

## Pride 2002

The theme for this year's San Francisco Pride Parade is "Be Yourself, Change the World." We are looking for some fabulous, CSZ-inspired ideas as well as volunteers for the parade. If you would like to volunteer your time and creative energy to make Sha'ar Zahav visible and fierce at this year's festivities, please contact Melanie Kushnir in the CSZ programming office (415/861-6932 ext. 305, [mkushnir@shaarzahav.org](mailto:mkushnir@shaarzahav.org)).

## CSZ Teens Lobby in Washington D.C.

by Ruby Cymrot-Wu, Emma Buchbinder, Annie Downs, and Julia Becker. Seated, Benjie Achtenberg.

This year's Religious Action Center Conference was a fabulous success! There were three veteran lobbyists in our group (Ruby Cymrot-Wu, Benjie Achtenberg, and Annie Downs), and two new recruits (Julia Becker and Emma Buchbinder). In addition, we were accompanied by our fearless leaders, Caryn Aviv (the Madrichim advisor) and Rabbi Camille Shira Angel.

The trip began bright and early at 4 am on February 1, when we all met at SFO. We arrived in Washington, D.C. that afternoon and joined with 350



Ruby Cymrot-Wu, Caryn Aviv, Emma Buchbinder, Annie Downs, Rabbi Camille Shira Angel, and Julia Becker. Seated, Benjie Achtenberg.

Jewish teens from around the country, 40 of whom were from Rodeph Shalom, Rabbi Angel's former congregation. It was nice to see friends we made last year at RAC, and make new ones.

Our first main activity was a political simulation game

*continued on page 4*

## Yizkor Elohim Eli Weinstein

Long-time CSZ member N. Eli Weinstein passed away on Monday, January 28 at the age of 78. Eli was born in Dallas, Texas in 1923 and had been a long-time resident of the San Francisco Bay Area following World War II Navy Service. He graduated from UCLA and Cal Berkeley in Chemistry. Eli worked as a chemist for the U.S. Department of Agriculture and a high school science teacher.

Eli will be missed by his family, many friends and extended family at Congregation Sha'ar Zahav. His loving family included his brother, Byron (Bette Jo) Weinstein, special cousin, Marcia Goidl, nieces Phyllis (Richard) Siebold and Janice (Marti) Sands-Weinstein, nephew Michael (Suzie) Weinstein, great-niece Racheal Weinstein and great-nephew David Sands-Weinstein.

Eli lived a full and rich life and traveled throughout the world. Eli indeed lived life 'his way.' He was among the early members of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav and remained an active member for the next 25 years. He served over the years on the Bikkur Cholim, Adult Education, Newsletter and Membership Committees, and lived his belief that each person is responsible for building community by actively participating and volunteering in the life of the synagogue. Eli was loved by many and will sorely missed by all.



## Looking Back, Looking Forward



Lisa Katz

As our congregation prepares to celebrate our 25th anniversary this year, we can anticipate many opportunities for looking back. Our community has so much to be proud of,

and there will be both joy and sorrow as we recall the history of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav.

This year also presents us with an opportunity for looking forward, and preparing for the future. What better time than our 25th year for thinking seriously about who we are and where we are heading? We have been in our new home for more than three years now, Rabbi Angel has been with us for over a year and our congregational life is richer and more active than ever. We offer more prayer services, more education and more programming than at any time in our history. At least a decade has gone by since the congregation last put a long-range plan on paper, and much has changed since then.

Last year we began to discuss some of the challenges of our growth in two different settings. First, there was the work that we did with the Alban Institute, which resulted in a report to the Congregation that was presented last May. Then, just a few weeks later, we had further conversations at our Annual Congregational Meeting, when, for the first time, we approved a budget with a deficit.

For different reasons, both the Alban Report and our budget situation lead us to a similar conclusion: Whatever our future direction might be, we cannot choose to stay exactly as we are. The Alban Report emphasized simply that organizations evolve, and change is inevitable. We have been growing and changing for many years. Our budget situation tells us we must change because we cannot go on for much longer with expenses exceeding our revenues.

Change will continue, as it has for 25 years. But what kind of change? Will it just happen to us, or can we take steps to actively guide the direction and pace

*continued on page 11*

## Call for Volunteers: Sukkot in April, April 28

Would you like to spend a day with other volunteers helping to upgrade and transform a home or community facility? In past years, Sha'ar Zahavniks have enjoyed a wonderful day doing just that. Painting, gardening, doing construction or preparing food for other volunteers are some of the things volunteers typically do.

This event, formerly known as Sukkot in April, and now Rebuilding Together, will take place on Sunday, April 28. There are some changes afoot for this year, however. Volunteers for April 28 will also help sponsor the event by raising funds - a minimum of \$100 per volunteer. If you are interested in participating, please contact Susan Lubeck (510/531-7660, [susanlubeck@aol.com](mailto:susanlubeck@aol.com)) by March 15, or sooner if possible.

## Nominating Committee Selected

Each spring, during the annual congregational meeting, new members of the Va'ad are elected from a slate proposed by a nominating committee. The nominating committee is chosen by the President and approved by the Va'ad. The committee's responsibility is to find candidates whose demographic and geographic diversity is representative of our community. Members who have served as chairs of committees or programs, or have shown leadership skills and interest are usually thought of as possible candidates for this important service to the congregation.

The nominating committee will be recommending three individuals to serve as at-large Va'ad members for a term of three years. They will be replacing retiring Va'ad members Howard Herman, Rose Katz and Ami Zushman. In addition, our officers, with the exception of the President, Lisa Katz, who has a two-year term, are elected annually. We will be choosing two Vice Presidents, a Treasurer and a Recorder.

The nominating committee for 2002 will be chaired by Sara Haber and includes Andy Fyne, David Gellman, Tony Harris, Rose Katz and Irene Ogus.

The Va'ad's responsibilities include policy making, financial management, personnel and strategic planning. Please contact any member of the committee to recommend someone you believe may be appropriate for this honor of service to the congregation.

## Pre-Shabbat Welcome Dinner

Friday, March 15, 6:15 pm at CSZ  
or 6:30 pm at ZAO Noodle Bar



Dining together is a tradition enacted daily throughout the world, throughout history and in every culture. Sharing a meal works magic, dissolving barriers and building connections. Through food and drink, strangers become familiars and familiars become friends.

Join the Keshet (Connections) and Membership Committees for the CSZ monthly dining tradition: the third Friday welcome dinner. On March 15, we will be dining as a group (pay-your-own-way) at ZAO Noodle Bar, 3583 16th St at Market St. Please RSVP to Marc Wernick (415/928-7883, [mhwernick@aol.com](mailto:mhwernick@aol.com)), Darah Wallsten (415/584-2706, [darah@aal.com](mailto:darah@aal.com)) or the synagogue office (415/861-6932, [office@shaar-zahav.org](mailto:office@shaar-zahav.org)). We look forward to having you join us!



## New Israeli Voices—

More than 50 people attended the discussion with Professor Avraham Friedman held on February 3 at CSZ. The event was widely publicized in the wider community, including a listing in the *Bay Guardian* and there was a wide range of views expressed in the question and answer session as Dr Friedman explored options for a realistic and better future for Arabs and Jews.

"If you ask me if I believe that we will have peace this year or next, my answer is no," declared Friedman. "But I do believe that a majority of people on both sides, who want to move on and live normal lives and secure their children's future, will have a social impact that will drive the politicians towards peace," he said.

This month the New Israeli Voices series hosts Gil-Ad Harish. Harish is best known for his good-natured challenging of Israeli "etiquette" and, more importantly, as an organizational guru for emerging non-profit organizations in the social change community. Please join us on Sunday, March 10 at 7 pm, as Harish discusses what Israelis are doing to empower local communities in the search for social and economic justice.

The New Israeli Voices speaker series is co-sponsored by Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, the Israel Center of the Jewish Community Federation and the Jewish Community Center of San Francisco.

### Members' Yahrzeits

- 6 Ede Rosen
- 7 Isabel Fishman
- 16 Ted Mendonca
- 20 Robert Coffman
- 26 Michael Lipson
- 28 Neill Rosen
- 31 Marvin Steele

## Torah Trope Classes at CSZ

This spring, CSZ offers you the opportunity to learn how to chant Torah. This introductory Torah trope class will be taught by CSZ's own Ron Edelman and will begin on Monday, April 8. There will be a total of six weekly sessions, running through May 20 (please note that the class will not meet on May 13). Cost is \$36 for CSZ members, \$72 for non-members. Class size is limited. To RSVP or for more information, please contact Melanie Kushnir in the CSZ programming office (415/861-6932 ext. 305, [mkushnir@shaarzahav.org](mailto:mkushnir@shaarzahav.org)).

## Building Community with our Homeless Neighbors

*by Craig Persiko for the Social Action Committee*

AJ, Susan and I (Social Action Co-chairs) have been talking about finding an ongoing activity for the synagogue to engage in working with homeless people. I decided to check out the Wednesday night meals at Most Holy Redeemer. I e-mailed Patrick and Ron (a couple of the organizers) beforehand, and was very impressed with their enthusiasm and interest in building community with homeless people who primarily reside in the Castro. Patrick said what he most wants is volunteers to sit and chat with the homeless guests. With great anticipation my husband Geoff and I went on Wednesday, January 30.

Immediately one of the guests engaged me in conversation. Dixon, a friendly African-American straight guy in his 30s, was studying the bible when I came up, but seemed more interested in conversation. Since there seemed to be plenty of volunteers to serve food. I took a seat next to him.

He was straightforward in conversation, telling me he was making the rounds of all the meals he could find. He found this chance to meet people stimulating, the best way to fight the temptation to be "lazy." He'd been in prison until about a year ago, for some drug-related crime. In prison he'd found Christianity as an alternative to the downward spiral of hatred and fighting among the prisoners. We talked about how we both grew up feeling disdain for organized religion, but now through our more recent experiences, we "got it" and found religion serves a valuable role in our lives. After talking about himself, Dixon said, "So tell me about you." He was very interested to hear that I teach at City College, and at the end of our conversation he said, "Maybe I'll see you there one of these days." I told him, "I hope so."

I felt a bit guilty having eaten a free meal and done very little work to

*continued on page 13*

## Dreaming of Property

Buying your first home? • Buying commercial or investment property?  
Buying a second vacation home? • Refinancing residential or commercial property?

Irene  
Ogus



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Step 2

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Step 3

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Members of the congregation receive the *Forward* as part of their membership. Nonmembers can receive a *Forward* subscription for \$36/year.

Note that articles reflect the opinions of their author and not necessarily those of the congregation or its committees.

#### Members of the Newsletter Committee

- *Chair and Editorial Coordinator:*  
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- *Editing/Proofreading/Layout:*  
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**Display Ads** are \$15 per column inch for nonmembers and \$10 per column inch for members with discounts available for size and frequency. Ads should be camera ready; any ads that require typesetting, camera and/or artwork will be subject to a one-time production charge.

**Classified Ads** are \$5 for up to 20 words, plus \$1 for each 10 additional words.

Payment must accompany ads and should be sent to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 290 Dolores St., San Francisco, California, 94103, marked: Attention Forward advertising. We reserve the right to reject any ad.

March 2002, Volume 25, Issue 7.



## CSZ Teens Lobby in Washington D.C. *continued from page 1*

called Kesef, Koach, V'Politika (Money, Power and Politics). The game explored how legislators respond to political pressure and enact new laws through the efforts of lobbying groups, television ads, demonstrators, and wealthy businesspeople. This year's issues focused on proposed legislation for prescription drug benefits for seniors and campaign finance reform. This exercise taught us that people need to be very passionate about what they believe in to make a difference and that money plays a critical role in the political process.

After learning about many other issues, such as climate change, reproductive rights and worker justice, we also had a chance to teach. It had come to our attention that this was the first year in a long time that the RAC had not organized a program focusing on LGBT issues. We thought it was important that people knew who were were and the communities we represented. Before 350 Jewish teens and their chaperones, we talked about heterosexism and what it's like to grow up in LGBT families.

This was an incredible, emotionally intense, but also very rewarding experience for everyone, and in some cases, emotions spoke louder than words. We felt this was our biggest accomplishment of the weekend and we look forward to continuing to raise awareness about LGBT issues at future RAC conferences.

On Monday, we went to Capitol Hill to lobby our representatives and senators on several issues. We met with Representative Tom Lantos, as well as the legislative assistants of Reps. Barbara Lee and Nancy Pelosi, and Senators Barbara Boxer and Dianne Feinstein. The issues we discussed were homelessness, capital punishment and children's welfare. We encouraged our legislators to increase the minimum wage, expand access to affordable housing, abolish the death penalty and to support children's welfare through nutrition and education initiatives. Overall, we had a fantastic time, we learned a tremendous amount about our political system and we look forward to returning next year with more Congregation Sha'ar Zahav teens.

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# Pinat Yeladim Umishpachah

Children and Family Corner

## Three Cheers for Our Supporters

Many thanks to our many supporters who make Children's and Family Programming possible at CSZ. Thanks to the Bureau of Jewish Education for their annual per capita religious school funding, the Family Education Fellowship, which supports family programming, and the School Improvement Grant which makes our Madrichim (Teen Leadership) Program possible. Thanks to the Sinai Memorial Chapel whose generous annual support has enabled us this year to maintain Early Childhood and other family programming. Thanks to parents who took advantage of Parents' Night Out this winter and helped send our teens to DC for the Reform Action Center Social Action Conference. Thanks to all of you who bought Barton's Passover candy in support of all of our programming. And thank you to those who give gifts of time and energy. Thanks to our adult teaching assistants, AJ Turpen, Andrea Guerra and James Laque who volunteer weekly in our classrooms. Thanks to all of our B'nei Mitzvah mentors and Hebrew tutors who guide our youth to adulthood. And finally, thanks to the Children's Education Board which commits untold hours to ensuring that Children's and Family Education is the best it can be here at Sha'ar Zahav.

## Family Kabbalat Shabbat Dinner and Dancing

Friday, March 1, 6 pm

Join us for a Family Kabbalat Shabbat Dance Extravaganza with Rabbi Angel, Family Education Specialist Jeni Markowitz and Educator Lom Friedman. We will feast and welcome Shabbat in prayer, song and Israeli dancing. All children of all ages are welcome. Reservations are necessary. Cost is \$3 for children, \$5 for adults for members and \$5 for children and \$10 for adults for non-members. Please RSVP by Feb. 27.

## Tot Shabbat Gets Ready for Passover

Saturday, March 16, 10:30 am

Family Education Specialist Jeni Markowitz will be making Miriam's cups with you and your tots in preparation for Passover. Find out Miriam's role in the Passover story and how to honor her at your seder table. There will also be Shabbat prayers, songs and learning. Please bring children age 2-5 to sing, play and celebrate.

## Baby Havurah Update

Due to persistently poor attendance, the Education Office is discontinuing the Baby Havurah at this time. We know there are babies out there in search of other progressive Jewish, LGBT babies like themselves to help their parents bond and create community. If you are such a baby or know one and would like to help revitalize this excellent gathering opportunity, please contact Sue Bojdak to express your interest. With a little bit of commitment and leadership, we are confident that babies can unite once more.

**Contact Sue Bojdak, Director of Family and Children's Education**  
(415/861-6932 x 302 or  
[educator@shaarzahav.org](mailto:educator@shaarzahav.org))  
for more information about any of these programs or to RSVP.

## Parent Education Series Consequences vs. Punishment

Sunday, March 10,  
10:30 am until noon

Wondering how to get your child to change troublesome behaviors? Get some tips and strategies on how to use specific consequences to teach new behaviors. Strengthen your child's reasoning ability by learning how to respond logically to their behavior. Parent Educator Robert Scott, MSW, will tell you how. A pioneer in the field of Father Support, Robert is a certified Parent Education Teacher and has taught Parent Education classes throughout the Bay Area for over 20 years. Co-sponsored with Jewish Family and Children's Services. Cost is \$10 per family. Childcare is provided. RSVP for childcare by Wednesday, March 6.

## Passover Family Education Day

Saturday, March 23,  
9:30 am until noon

Just in time to prepare for your family Passover seder. Join Family Education Specialist Jeni Markowitz for this special Passover family education day, including interactive family learning and the creation of take-home ritual objects for your seder table. Appropriate for children age 5 and over. Open to adults and families without children wishing to join in a child-centric program. Kadimah parents, please join your children for this special morning of Kadimah or invite other adults in their lives to join them. All non-Kadimah families, please RSVP by Monday, March 18. Free to members. \$10 per family for non-members. Please make payments to the CSZ office in advance of the event.

**There is NO KADIMAH**  
Wednesday, March 27  
Saturday, March 30

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# March 2002-Adar/Nisan 5762

SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY	
<p>Please note that dates, times and locations sometimes get changed after the <i>Forward</i> is published. Call the office if you need updated information.</p>				APRIL DEADLINE MONDAY, MARCH 4, A			
				ARTICLES		ADVE	
				Please submit your articles as a Word attachment file via email to: <a href="mailto:kschiller@igc.org">kschiller@igc.org</a> . <i>No late submissions will be accepted.</i>		To place a display ad, contact or <a href="mailto:froslyn@earthlink.net">froslyn@earthlink.net</a> ). To	
3	19 Adar	4	20 Adar	5	21 Adar	6	
• 4 pm - Music in the Mishkan		• 6:30 pm - Children's Education Board • 7 pm Beit Midrash		• 4 pm - East Bay Kadimah • 7-9 pm - Poetry, Prose and Midrash		• 3:30 pm - Kids and K • 4 pm - Kadimah • 7 pm - JGF Editing	
10	26 Adar	11	27 Adar	12	28 Adar	13	Rosh Chodesh
• 10 pm Greeter Brunch • 10:30 am - Parent Education Class • 4 pm - Healing Service • 6 pm - JGF Layout • 7 pm - New Israeli Voices Speaker Series: <i>Gil-Ad Harish</i>		• 7 pm Fundraising Committee		• 4 pm - East Bay Kadimah • 7 pm - Leadership Development		• 4 pm - Kadimah • 6 pm - Building and C Meeting	
17	4 Nisan	18	President's Day 5 Nisan	19	6 Nisan	20	
				• 4 pm - East Bay Kadimah		• 12 pm - Diller Teen Fel • 4 pm - Kadimah • 7 pm - Leadership De	
24	11 Nisan	25	12 Nisan	26	13 Nisan	27	Erev Passover
		• 6:30 pm - Israel/Palestine Discussion		• 4 pm - East Bay Kadimah		NO Kadimah	
31	18 Nisan						

**Please Be in Touch With Me**

I am eager to be in touch with all members of the CSZ family whenever there are occasions of joy or sadness in your lives. When there is a death in the family, please call me as soon as possible. We very much want to be there with you at a time of grief.

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*Rabbi Camille Shira Angel*



THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SHABBAT	
5 PM  T I S I N G  oslyn Fuerman (510/526-1209 ice a classified ad, call the office.		1 17 Adar • 1 pm - Tenderloin Lunch Program • 5:43 pm - Candle Lighting • 6 pm - Kabbalat Shabbat Family Dinner • 8:15 pm - Shabbat Services led by Rabbi Angel and Larry Wexler	2 Shabbat Ki Tisa (Exodus 30:11-34:35) 18 Adar Ritual Committee Shabbaton • 9 am - Torah Study • 9:30 am - Kadimah • 10 am - Shabbat Services led by Rabbi Angel • 6:30 pm - Havdalah and Panel Discussion: Trembling Before G-d		
22 Adar 7	23 Adar 8	24 Adar 9 Shabbat Vayakhel-Pekude (Exodus 35:1-40:38) 25 Adar	itizing	• 5:50 pm - Candle Lighting • 7-8 pm - Shabbat Across America • 8:15 pm - Shabbat Services led by Steve Weitz and Joel Ginsberg	• 9 am - Torah Study • 9:30 am - Kadimah • 10 am - Shabbat Services
29 Adar 14	Rosh Chodesh 1 Nisan 15	2 Nisan 16 Shabbat Vayikra (Lev 1:1-5:26) 3 Nisan	unds	• 6:30 pm - Va'ad Meeting	• 9 am - Torah Study • 9:30 am - Kadimah • 10:30 am - Tot Shabbat • 10 am - Shabbat Services led by Rabbi Angel and Nora Downs
7 Nisan 21	8 Nisan 22	9 Nisan 23 Shabbat Tzav (Lev 6:1-8:36) 10 Nisan	s Day  opment	• 6:03 pm - Candle Lighting • 8:15 pm - Shabbat Services led by Tiela Chalmers, Nora Downs and Randy Weiss	• 9 am - Torah Study • 9:30 am - Kadimah • 9:30-12 pm - Passover Family Education Day • 10 am - Shabbat Services led by Alan Gordon and Devir Wenders
14 Nisan 28	Passover 15 Nisan 29	Passover 16 Nisan 30 Shabbat (Ex 33:12-34:26) 17 Nisan		• 6:10 pm - Candle Lighting • 8:15 pm - Shabbat Services led by Jeff Piade and Joe Hample	• 9 am - Torah Study NO Kadimah • 10 am - Shabbat Services led by Ron Edelman
OFFICE CLOSED • 6:30 pm - Congregational Seder					



## East Bay Services

**Friday, March 15, 8:15 pm**

Vegetarian potluck  
candle lighting and zemirot

Amanda Littauer and Laura Steele  
1110 Jackson St. #921, Albany

510/526-0172



## Vote Slate 8 *by Ron Lezell, for the Israel Committee*

Thank you to everyone who registered to vote in the World Zionist Congress election. It's now time to cast your vote for Slate 8, ARZA/WORLD UNION, North America, representing Reform Judaism. Ballots will be mailed February 27 to those of you who registered to vote. Completed ballots must be returned by April 5.

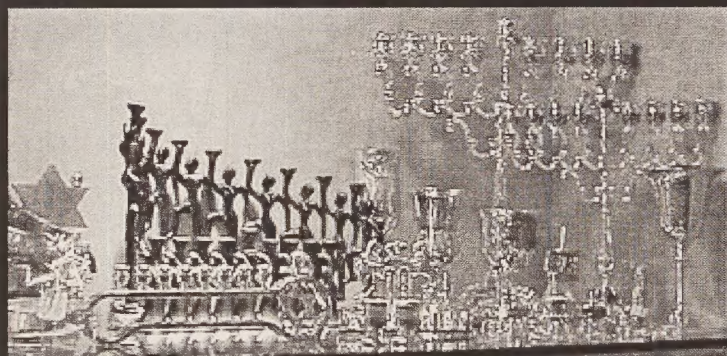
Slate 8 represents Reform and Reconstructionist Movements, Union of American Hebrew Congregations, Central Conference of American Rabbis, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism, Women of Reform Judaism, National Federation of Temple Brotherhoods' and Jewish Reconstructionist Federation. Following is a statement put forth by Slate 8, ARZA/WORLD UNION, North America:

"Reform Jews in America have a chance to send a message that we care deeply about our future and about the unity and continuity of all the Jewish people. We want a secure Israel and a peaceful region. We want an Israel with a strong voice for our shared progressive Jewish values - on women's rights and civil rights, religious freedom and the environment. We want an Israel that is truly democratic, pluralistic and more inclusive and tolerant of all Jews.

"Other slates seek your vote with promises to fight for peace, pluralism and democracy, or for equality and social justice. But ARZA/WORLD UNION, North America has been taking bold, effective and unprecedented action on these issues for years. We are the only authentic voice of Reform, Reconstructionist and Progressive Judaism in the U.S. or in Israel."

Slate 8 also represents the strongest voices of any of the slates, for the rights of the LGBT communities in North America and around the Jewish world. Up-to-date election information can be found at [www.votereformjudaism.com](http://www.votereformjudaism.com).

## SHA'AR ZAHAV GIFT SHOP



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## Jan Va'ad Minutes

James Carlson delivered the d'var Torah on Parashat Vayairah. He pointed out that Pharaoh understandably resisted change, but this was not good leadership. James challenged us to listen to others' ideas and to think about whether we are open to new ideas, or are instead hard-hearted.

Karen Schiller presented the Newsletter Committee's proposed Personal Ad Policy. We voted to keep the existing guidelines (ads should be tasteful and cannot have sexual content) but to have a volunteer subcommittee review ads at the request of the Newsletter Committee.

President Lisa Katz asked us to focus on the critical areas of long-range planning, increasing membership and fundraising.

There are volunteer opportunities on committees for the 25th Anniversary, Va'ad nominations, Long-Range Planning, Fundraising, Kol Yad, Fund for the Future, the Congregational Advance and the Leadership Advance.

We have the building and the Rabbi and the programs. Now we need the appropriate level of membership so we can magnify our results. We voted unanimously to give the Membership Committee increased funding for the purpose of publicity.

The date of the Leadership Advance has been changed to August 2-4. This will not conflict with the UAHC Kallah. The location will be wheelchair accessible. Facilitator Susan Colson's availability is not yet known.

Rabbi Angel reported on lifecycle events ranging from joyous to tragic. The Beit Midrash is going forward. Bikkur Cholim is a vital service that requires a functioning bi-monthly Chesed committee. There is not enough of the Rabbi to go around.

We gave preliminary consideration to the following proposed policy regarding money on Shabbat: Anyone who does not wish to handle money on Shabbat should register and pay for CSZ events in advance. Persons arriving on the day of the event without pre-paying must pay on the day of the event, or make arrangements to allow later payment. (Our current policy is not to take money once we start observing Shabbat.) This topic will be revisited at next month's Va'ad meeting, after the Ritual Committee has had a chance to discuss it.

Administrator Lea Salem encouraged us to volunteer for JCF's Super Sunday Campaign, chaired by our own Howard Steiermann.

Ami Zusman of the Membership Committee invited us to attend the upcoming brunch on March 10, to

*continued on page 11*



This month the *Jewish Gaily Forward* chats with our doyens of community building, Marianne Balin and Tony Harris, the chairs of the Keshet/Connections and Membership Committees, respectively. Like their committees, Marianne and Tony are different but complementary, each committed to making Congregation Sha'ar Zahav a thriving and welcoming community.

Marianne was raised "Country Club Reform" in the 'burbs of Philly; Tony was raised in an inter-faith household in the Los Angeles area. Marianne has theater and public health degrees from Bennington College and the University of Michigan; Tony has a business and finance degree from USC, where he was on ROTC scholarship. Marianne lives in the East Bay with her daughters, Annie, 16 and Nora, 13, her spouse Prudence Carter and their two pets, Frankie, a wire-haired dachshund and Pinocchio Bob, a very ambassadorial cat. Tony lives in Portero Hill with his partner, Mark Gershman, and their dog, Tanner, a cocker spaniel and their cat, Beau. Marianne and Tony take building community personally; they both met their partners at CSZ. Marianne met Prudence at the annual Leadership Advance; Tony met Mark at oneg.

The JGF chatted with Tony and Marianne to learn more about how they become involved with CSZ and their ideas about building community.

*JGF: How did you become involved with CSZ?*

MB: In 1983 I moved to San Francisco and in 1985 joined Or Shalom, a renewal synagogue. In the late 80s, I got divorced and came out as a lesbian. In 1992, I started exploring CSZ. I wanted a place where my children could have peers with gay parents. Phyllis Mintzer pulled us in with her love of Jewish learning. When CSZ was waiting to move into our new building and we had Kadimah at Congregation Emanu-El, I started attending Torah study and services, because it was too far to drive back home. I was welcomed in by George Mintzer and the handful of other regulars. By attending Torah study almost every week, I felt much more integrated into the synagogue. I remember a Sat-

urday morning that I was signed up to greet - and I have to admit that was scary at first. This particular Saturday, the chairs and pews were askew - not in the proper arrangement for our services. And I remember re-arranging the chairs feeling like "Ah ha, I didn't have to have permission to do this. I am a member of the community, an owner in creating community and warmth."

TH: I had attended services around the world: Japan, England, Alabama, Arizona, Atlanta, New York, Dayton, and Los Angeles. The first time I attended CSZ was when I was living down in Mountain View. Friends had told me about the synagogue. I felt this profound sense of having found a spiritual home. I sensed this connection between myself as a gay man and as a Jew. My sexual orientation and my religion felt in synergy instead of opposed to each other. When I moved into the city, I joined CSZ. Joe Hample and Ron Lezell really helped me to feel wrapped into the community.

*JGF: How did you decide to step into a leadership role at CSZ?*

MB: I was inspired by the High Holiday Ensemble. I had a little bit of chorale background, but feared that the music was too complex for me. José Luis Moscovich has an ear for excellence. He, and the entire ensemble, lovingly helped me become comfortable with the learning process. At High Holidays, I felt closer to everyone. On stage I could see the entire congregation and really feel a part of the community. I was very honored when Joe Hample asked me to help co-chair the Keshet committee. I had been attending the meetings and I remember thinking when Joe asked me to step up, "why not?" And, now I am excited about my new unofficial role as "B'nei Mitzvah Maveness" - helping families to create successful events to celebrate this important religious lifecycle ritual.

TH: I had been involved with the Keshet and Membership Committees and had helped out with other synagogue programs, like 100 Dates in One Night. I was really concerned about taking on a leadership role because of work commitments. I then spoke with David

Gellman, the President of CSZ at the time, and he convinced me. I am really excited about the prospect of enhancing membership outreach over the next year.

*JGF: What is your vision for community building at CSZ?*

TH: The strategic vision of CSZ is to increase our membership from its current level of about 400 family units to 500 family units. The Membership Committee is committed to providing a variety of activities, programs and community services that will help us achieve that goal. As important as the number, we want CSZ to welcome and be friendly to any visitor, and to invite them to become involved and to become members. Wouldn't it be great for CSZ to be known as a place that has great programs where prospective members can explore their Judaism, regardless of their previous exposure to Judaism? We want to be just as accessible for the member who just moved here from another city and was active in that Jewish community, as for the long-time San Francisco resident who is coming in

*continued on page 10*

Inspired by Tony and Marianne? Want to help with building community at CSZ? Here is how you can help:

- Invite a friend to an upcoming service or program, and don't forget their kids, too.
- Reach out. Spend time with someone you don't know at the next program or service you attend.
- Join a committee. Invite someone you don't know to join a committee with you, or if you aren't on a committee, find one you're interested in joining.
- Extend a hand. Watch for new faces at the next service you attend. If someone is struggling to follow along, offer to help.

If you have suggestions for the "Daveners and Doers," column, please contact Marc Wernick (415/928-7883, [mhwernick@aol.com](mailto:mhwernick@aol.com)).



## CSZ Panel Educates Peninsula Teens

On a Wednesday evening in January, we began with ice cream and ended with ice cream. Seven teens from Peninsula Temple Beth El, in San Mateo, along with their rabbi, Michael Lezak, opened an evening of dialogue with CSZ members Ruby Cymrot-Wu, Ina Fried, Alan Gordon, and Sue Bojdak, by sharing their favorite ice cream flavors. With the preliminaries out of the way, panel members treated the teens to a quick history of CSZ, a tour of our building, and a sharing of personal stories, both Jewish and LGBT. This regular Wednesday meeting of Beth El 16 and 17 year olds determines different topics for study throughout the school year. Their visit to CSZ was an important component of their study of LGBT issues in Jewish tradition. Panelists shared diverse stories of coming out both as Jewish and queer, tales of family drama; and journeys of finding their identities; and answered questions about raising children, facing prejudice and how to be allies. Drawing the evening to a close, the Beth El teens stopped at the SF ice cream "institution," Mitchell's, before returning home to the Peninsula. In the short run, we have evidence of having positively influenced ice cream choices on the return trip. We look forward to the long-term implications of educating Jewish youth about the lives and concerns of LGBT Jews.

## Daveners and Doers

*continued from page 9*

with no formal Jewish education and background.

MB: Keshet is working hard to make sure new members feel integrated into the CSZ community. We want to pull wallflowers gracefully from the edges of the oneg room and sanctuary. Keshet also helps congregants achieve the right level of involvement given their interests and time. Volunteerism and lay leadership has made the place work. The work we do on committees or when we volunteer to help at an event really binds the community.

## Synagogue Information

### Congregation Sha'ar Zahav

290 Dolores Street  
415/861-6932 (voice); 415/861-6081 (fax)  
Programming office, 415/575-4961  
Education office, 415/575-4962  
office@shaarzahav.org (email)  
http://www.shaarzahav.org (web)

### CSZ Staff:

*Rabbi, Camille Shira Angel (x 301)*  
- rabbiangel@shaarzahav.org  
*Administrator, Lea Salem (x 308)*  
- lsalem@shaarzahav.org  
*Program Director, Dahlia Gross (x 305)*  
- cszdahlia@yahoo.com  
*Director of Children's and Family Education*  
*Sue Bojdak (x 302)*  
- educator@shaarzahav.org  
*Kadimah Head Teacher,*  
- Phyllis Mintzer  
*Administrative Assistant,*  
*Sean Holcombe (x 304)*  
- sholcombe@shaarzahav.org  
*Family Education Specialist,*  
*Jeni Markowitz*  
- familyeducator@shaarzahav.org  
*Rabbi's Assistant,*  
*Gabby Volodarsky (x 310)*  
- gabbyv@shaarzahav.org

### Officers:

*President, Lisa Katz*  
(415/821-7746),  
- lkatz1@juno.org or  
- president@shaarzahav.org  
*Vice President, Arthur Slepian*  
*Vice President, Jeffrey Sherman*  
*Treasurer, James Carlson*  
*Recorder, Ray Bernstein*

### Va'ad (Board) Members:

David Gellman (ex officio)  
Ben Bank  
Howard Herman  
Nancy Kates  
Rose Katz  
Laura Lowe  
Ron Miguel  
Drew Parker-Rose  
Howard Steiermann  
Ami Zusman

*Members wishing to contact any Va'ad member or committee chair are invited to obtain her or his number from the synagogue office.*

### Committee Chairs:

*Adult Education, Ron Edelman and Prudence Carter*  
*Archives, open*  
*Baby Havurah, open*  
*Bequests and Donations, Richard Inlander*  
*Bikkur Cholim, Nicole Bloom*  
*Book Group, Mark Mackler*  
*Building and Grounds, Beth Sousa*  
*Bylaws, Richard Inlander*  
*Children's Education Board, Ruthy Talansky*  
*Cemetery, Richard Inlander*  
*Dor Rishon Brotherhood, open*  
*Dues, James Carlson, Tiela Chalmers, Brian Jersky, Laura Lowe*  
*East Bay Havurah, Ida Kuluk and Larry Wexler*  
*Endowment Fund, Diana Buchbinder*  
*Finance, James Carlson*  
*Fine Arts, Barbara Cymrot*  
*Fundraising, Arthur Slepian*  
*Gift Shop, Jeff Rubin*  
*Israel Committee, Ron Lezell and Michal Goralsky*  
*Keshet/Connection, Marianne Balin and Geri Kahn*  
*Leadership Development, Paul Cohen*  
*Library, Bernard Schertzer*  
*Long-Range Planning, Allan Gold*  
*Membership Outreach, Tony Harris*  
*Mishkan Dolores Capital Campaign, Ellie Cohen*  
*Music, Michael Sarid*  
*Newsletter, Karen Schiller*  
- kschiller@igc.org  
*Past Presidents Council, David Stein*  
*Personnel, Jeff Sherman*  
*Public Relations, Sharyn Saslaffsky and Marc Wernick*  
*Rabbi Liaison, Allan Gold*  
*Ritual, Howard Steiermann*  
*Social Action, AJ Turpen, Craig Persiko, Susan Lubeck*  
*Singles Havurah, Marc Wernick*  
- mhwernick@aol.com  
*Toddler/Pre-school Havurah, Deena Lahn*  
*UAHC National Liaison, Mike Rankin*  
*UAHC Regional Liaison, Daniel Chesir*  
*WGCLBJO Liaison, David Gellman*  
*Web and I.T., Drew Parker-Rose*  
*Women's Havurah, open*

**Bikkur Cholim:** If you or a friend who is a member of Sha'ar Zahav is ill in the hospital or at home, and would like to have a member of the Bikkur Cholim Committee call or visit, please notify the synagogue office.

**Member of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations and the World Congress of Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Jewish Organizations.**



## President's Column

*continued from page 2*

of change? Can we work to ensure that CSZ changes in ways that are most consistent with what we believe are the mission and values of our congregation?

I believe we can, that we must take an active approach to thinking about our long-term future. To further that end, I am appointing a new long-range planning committee. I have asked one of our current Vice Presidents, Arthur Slepian, and a former Vice President, Claudia Bernard, to co-chair this committee. And I am grateful to the others who have agreed to serve with them, including two past-presidents, Allan Gold and Tiela Chalmers, who were both very involved in our prior planning efforts. The other members who I am appointing to this committee include Susan Tubbesing, Geoff Benjamin, Leyna Bernstein, Lyssa Friedman, Michael Sarid, Danny Kodmur, Ali Cannon and Marc Lipschutz. This committee has a busy year in front of them. I have asked that a preliminary report be presented to the Va'ad in November.

I know you will be hearing a lot more about this group, their activities and timetable, directly from the committee itself, in future issues of the *Forward* and elsewhere. I have asked the committee to design an inclusive process with many opportunities for the entire congregation to be involved in discussing and thinking about our future. You will be hearing soon about the ways in which your voices can be heard. Please take part in this important process.

One particular opportunity that I want to mention is our upcoming Congregational Advance. Scheduled to be held at CSZ the weekend of May 31 - June 2, it will be the first event of its kind in the history of Sha'ar Zahav. The weekend will include a special Friday night service in honor of our 25th anniversary, many opportunities for members to eat and talk together, and several "Town Hall" and small group discussions about issues related to the future of our congregation. The discussions at the Advance will be an integral part of the work of the Long-Range Planning Committee. Please reserve the dates; more information about this exciting weekend will be coming soon.

Change is a constant but it is rarely easy. And I know that there will be almost as many opinions about the issues as we have members, perhaps more. But I am confident of several things: One is that our process will be inclusive and allow for all of our diverse views to be expressed and heard. Second, that we will engage each other, even when we may disagree, in ways that are respectful of one another. And finally, I am confident that our shared love and commitment to this community will rise above everything else, and we will face the future a stronger community than ever before.

**Shop at the CSZ Gift Shop.  
It's an easy way to make a  
contribution to our synagogue.**

## Jan Va'ad Minutes

*continued from page 8*

thank greeters and give a refresher lesson on security.

We unanimously welcomed five new and two returning members. Two members have resigned.

Educator Sue Bojdak pointed out that we will likely need more classroom space next year than is available currently on Saturday mornings, due to anticipated increased class size.

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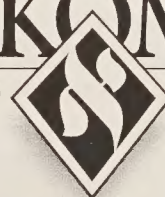
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**R. Max Benjamin**  
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**Kevin Bernstein and Rebecca Meyer**  
-in honor of the naming of Malik Bernstein.

**Jordan and Carol Levitin**  
-in memory of Ron Wilmot.

**Claire Sherman and Ed Anisman**  
-in honor of Rabbi Yoel Kahn, Dan Bellm and Adam.

**Ami Zusman**  
-in memory of Benjamin Herzl Saperstein.

**Jeanette Nichols and Daryl Goldman**  
-in honor of Dan Bellm's becoming bar mitzvah.

**Rabbi Morley Feinstein**  
-in honor of Dan Bellm's becoming bar mitzvah.

**Steven Horowitz**  
-in memory of Keith Fenton.

**James Emery and Charles Spiegel**  
-in memory of George Spiegel  
-in honor of Anne and Lee Miller.

**Jonathan Funk and John Arnold**  
-in memory of Bernice Wiseman.

**Nancy Meyer and Daniel Meyer O'Keeffe**  
-in memory of Marilyn O'Keeffe.

**Josh Bottfeld**  
-in honor of Howard Steiermann.

**Anonymous**  
-in honor of the Shabbat musical enhancements of Joel Ginsberg.

**Anat Lewin**  
-in memory of Hersh Lewin.

**Ron and Ruth Miguel**  
-in memory of Seymour Hipschman.  
-in honor of Bernice and David Hanak's 45th wedding anniversary.

**Janis Portal**  
-in memory of Jorge Portal.

## Mishkan Dolores Capital Campaign

**Basil Bernstein**  
-in memory of Thomas Giannini.

**Batya Kalis**  
-in honor of Tiela Chalmers' birthday.

**Pamela Schaffer**  
-in honor of Lisa Katz.

**George Thompson**  
-in honor of Lisa Katz.

**Susan Hilsenrad Tacherra**  
-in honor of Marjorie Hilsenrad.

**Eva Zysman**  
-in memory of Dr. Andrew Zysman.

**Kit Kennedy**  
-in memory of Sol Prengler.

**Richard Weiner and Susan Lubeck**  
-in honor of Amy Cunninghis and Karen Golinski's 11th Anniversary.

**Hershey Hirschkop**  
-in memory of Phyllis Rena Abadzoglou.  
-in memory of Sonia Goldfine.

**Beatrice Lieberman**  
-in memory of Estelle Lieberman.

**Barry Yaillen**  
-in appreciation of the welcoming CSZ community.

**Larry Wexler**  
-in memory of Thomas Giannini.  
-in honor of Ida Kuluk and Susan Spott.  
-in memory of Sarah Chamoff.  
-in memory of Milton Frantz.

**Alex Ingersoll and David Stein**  
-in memory of Ben and Yetta Shuchat.

**Elizabeth and Michael Schaffer**  
-in memory of Louis Schaffer.

**Bellm-Kahn Family**  
-in honor of Dan's becoming bar mitzvah.

**Sari and Blake McConnell.**

**Rod Leslie**  
-in memory of David Leslie.

**Bonnie Fenton.**

**Lisa Katz**  
-in honor of Dan Bellm's becoming bar mitzvah.  
-in honor of Malik Bernstein's naming.

## Chesir-Stein Music Fund

**Eric Weiss and Dan Alpert**  
-in memory of Sarah Chamoff.

## Special Thanks to

**Amy Cunninghis and Karen Golinski** for their help in sponsoring our teens on their trip to DC.

## Adult Education Fund

**Eli Weinstein**  
-in honor of Dan Bellm's becoming bar mitzvah.

**Eric Weiss and Dan Alpert**  
-in memory of Thomas Giannini.

## AIDS Fund

**Susan Simpson**  
-in memory of Jonathan Pon.

## Bikkur Cholim Fund

**Allan Berenstein**  
-in memory of Allan Harris.  
-in memory of Ron Wilmot.  
-in memory of Jason Gaber.

**Phyllis and George Mintzer**  
-in memory of Louis Weinberger.

## Children's Education Fund

**Rose Katz**  
-in honor of Dan Bellm's becoming bar mitzvah.

**Jo-Ellen Green Kaiser and David Kaiser**  
-in support of the Tot Shabbat Program.

**Eric Weiss and Dan Alpert**  
-in memory of Milton Frantz.

## Fund for the Future

**Larry Wexler**  
-in honor of the CSZ staff for their love and dedication.

## Library Fund

**Jonathan Funk and John Arnold**  
-in memory of Minnie Wiseman.

## Prayerbook Fund

**Larry Wexler**  
-in memory of Robert and Rosalie Siegel.

## Rabbi Angel's Discretionary Fund

**Dan Bellm and Rabbi Yoel Kahn**  
-in honor of Dan Bellm's becoming bar mitzvah.

**Howard Haberman.**

**Jeanette Nichols and Daryl Goldman**  
-in honor of Diana Buchbinder and Jeane Redsecker's wedding.

**Carlos Alonso.**

## Social Action Fund

**Ida Kuluk**  
-in honor of Dan Bellm's becoming bar mitzvah.

**Sarita Groisser**  
-in honor of Terry Fletcher.

## Contributions in memory of Tatia and Zorah Allie May French

**Balin-Downs-Carter Family.**

**Miriam and Robert Stoll.**

**Linda and Robert Feldman.**

**Norman and Nancy Rossen.**

**Sharon and Leonard Silverman.**

**Lisa Katz.**

**Rose Katz.**

**Jeanette Nichols and Daryl Goldman.**

**Ida Kuluk.**

**Julie Moed and Shelley Eisenman.**

**Jeffrey Piade.**

**Eric Weiss and Dan Alpert.**

**Larry Wexler.**

## Contributions in memory of Eli Weinstein

**Michael Zimmerman.**

**Jonathan Funk.**

**Lisa Katz.**

**Jerry Rosenstein.**

**Alex Ingersoll and David Stein.**

**Gordon Osser.**

**Susan Tubbesing.**

**Lea Salem and Lisa Ochs.**

**William and Diane Ehrlich.**

**Gerald Hyman.**

**Allan Berenstein.**

**George and Phyllis Mintzer.**

**James Carlson.**

*We graciously thank those who have sponsored this year's Art Shabbaton workshops*

**Ellen Press and Bobbie Becker.**

**Jonathan Funk.**

**Ida Kuluk.**

**Allan Berenstein.**

**Rabbi Camille Shira Angel.**

**Michael Chertok.**

**Barbara Cymrot-Wu.**

**Cytron-Hogan Family.**

**Ruthy Talansky.**

**Ann Aptaker.**

**George and Phyllis Mintzer.**

**Mark Wernick**  
-in memory of Sarah Chamoff.

**Sarita Groisser.**

*If you would like to make a donation, call the synagogue office.*



## UAHC Biennial

*In December, nine Sha'ar Zahavniks - Rabbi Camille Shira Angel, Daniel Chesir, Paul Cohen, Joe Hample, Lisa Katz, Arthur Slepian, Rena Frantz (who was one of the exhibitors), Lea Salem and Lisa Ochs - traveled to snowy Boston for the UAHC Biennial, a gathering of more than 5,000 Reform Jews from across the country and around the world. Here are the impressions of some members of our group:*

Arthur reports: "My first impression of the Biennial was how wonderfully noisy the Marriott Hotel was as I checked in. Must be something about putting thousands of Jews in the same hotel! This was my second Biennial, and as with the last one in Orlando, my memories focus on a few very specific moments that felt extraordinarily uplifting or transformational. In Boston, several of these key memories revolved around services - how wonderful it was to pray with 5,000 other Jews. In particular, the Shabbat morning prayer service included the most rousing Torah processional I have ever witnessed, followed soon after by a deeply moving Mishebeirach."

Lisa Katz concurs: "Probably the highlight of the conference was the Shabbat service. Worshipping together with more than 5,000 other Reform Jews was an unbelievable experience. I did not expect to be as moved by it as I was."

Joe said, "I loved sharing Shabbat worship, singing and dancing with 5,000 Reform Jews. It was fun to start conversations with UAHC delegates from around the country, and to ride down in the elevator with strangers who shared something important with me."

Rabbi Angel was also moved by the group worship and listed as a highlight: "Leading the service Thursday morning - Sh'ma Koleinu: Hearing All Our Voices - a service celebrating a quarter of a century of LGBT people being a part of Reform Judaism with colleagues and friends who came before us, upon whose shoulders we stand." In particular she mentioned the groundbreaking work of our own Rabbi Yoel Kahn.

The speakers and study sessions were also inspiring. Lea, who described the study sessions as "amazing," particularly enjoyed a session on the separation of church and state run by the Religious

Action Center. One highlight of the Biennial for her was hearing Uri Regev (the Director of the Israel Religious Action Center) speak about his fight for justice in Israel.

Lisa Ochs' favorite session was a forum on international social justice which included Ruth Messenger, who heads the American Jewish World Service. Another very powerful speaker, Francis Bok, is a former slave from the Sudan. He was kidnapped from a marketplace at the age of seven and managed to escape to Egypt ten years later. Lisa is hoping to get the synagogue involved in the anti-slavery movement in time for Pesach.

There was much to learn during the week also. Arthur said: "I almost skipped the Shabbat study luncheon I had signed up for, but it turned out to be the most interesting session I attended all week, a drash on a passage of Talmud that provided new insight into the meaning of Jewish responsibility." Joe enjoyed a variety of programs, including the pre-convention program on Kabbalah, where "I learned that God is the ocean and we're the waves," a cantillation class which demonstrated how trope varies among countries and denominations, and a presentation on children's prayer. Rabbi Angel was a panelist on the "Youth at Risk Workshop"

and said, "How quickly I forget what it's like outside in the rest of the Jewish world - beyond Sha'ar Zahav." She emphasized our synagogue's role as "a bright beacon of light," and said that the mainstream Jewish world needs us to be "a shamash - a helping partner in creating inclusivity." However, she said it's important not to forget how much we need the "mainstream ideas, resources, creativity, talent, tradition," and said "I came back, rededicated to the goal of finding the right balance!"

Other enjoyable aspects of the Biennial included socializing, reconnecting with Sha'ar Zahav alums, including Robin Leonard, Michael Latz and Jonathan Comisar; a creative tzedakah project developed by the students the Rashi School, a local Reform day school, and the memorial for Rabbi Schindler, during which Rabbi Yoffie listed as one of Rabbi Schindler's three greatest accomplishments the open inclusion of gay and lesbian Jews within Reform Judaism. "We really have come a long way," said Lisa Katz.

The Biennial was both enjoyable and invigorating. Lea marveled at "the energy, the excitement, the ability to come together."

"All in all," said Rabbi Angel, the week was "replenishing, invigorating and inspirational."

### New Members

The Membership Committee is pleased to announce that our congregation gained the following new members this month. A warm welcome to the most recent people to join our family:

- Nathan Kling
- Carlos Alonso
- Sharon Dulberg and Ilana Drummond
- Robert Appel, Sydney Recht, Gabriel and Eli Recht-Appel

We are grateful to see our congregation grow. It is up to all of us to help our new members feel welcome as they become active participants in our community.

### Homeless Neighbors

*continued from page 3*

help out. However, most of the preparation had been done, and I was assured that building community with the guests was important too. Geoff and I talked with Patrick and Ron at some length after everyone else had left. It's exciting to talk with these guys about what we're doing because their enthusiasm is so overpowering. I came away feeling that not only are we helping people who are homeless, but we're putting ourselves in touch with them, instead of just stepping over them on the sidewalk. We all benefit from reducing the divisions between us.

Our involvement with this program is still developing. Please contact me ([craig@redcottage.com](mailto:craig@redcottage.com), 415/701-0733) if you'd like to get involved.



## March

- 1 Lisa Geduldig  
Jo-Ellen Kaiser  
Arthur Slepian
- 3 Shelley Adler  
Ed Blaik  
Howard Herman  
Craig Shear
- 4 Randy Blaustein
- 5 Stephanie Godt  
Elias Rose  
Nancy Wecker
- 6 Kevin Stein
- 7 Arlene Singer
- 8 Ann Biderman  
David Couch  
Amy Cunninghis  
Ziggy Gimnicher  
Phyllis Mintzer
- 9 Nancy Igdaloff
- 10 George Mintzer  
Stephen Shotland  
Dana Vinicoff
- 11 Jessie Ap'neva
- 12 Jerome Geffner  
Hershey Hirschkop
- 13 Michael Frank  
Mary Schroeder
- 14 Dey Rose
- 15 Jeffrey Davidson
- 16 Tracey Berliner  
Geri Kahn  
Jonathan Pannor  
Alice Prussin
- 17 Julie Frank  
Larry Kaplun  
Ian Sweedler  
Jennifer Woods
- 18 Ann Bauman  
Richard Hazel  
Garry Schermann
- 19 Amy Kaufman
- 20 Carol Barnett  
Kathryn McHenry
- 21 Mike Abramson  
Jeffrey Shuman
- 22 Ezra Barth-Rogers  
Talia Barth-Rogers  
Ellen Novogrodsky

## March

- 23 Aaron Berman
- 24 Lucy Bernholz
- 25 Hilda Bernstein  
Randall Weiss
- 26 Craig Persiko
- 27 Rebecca Doctors  
Joanne Kapsack  
Jacob Warsaw
- 28 Michael Hulton
- 29 Bob Gutterman  
Ira Hirschfield
- 30 Tony Harris  
David Maltz
- 31 Zola Crowe Rosenfeld  
Mia Crowe Rosenfeld

## Naches

To Past President **Irene Ogus** on being elected to the Board of Sinai Memorial Chapel.

## Classifieds

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### GOT SUN?

Palm Springs vacation rental. 3 bdr home, sleeps 6. Pool w/privacy. Close to downtown. No smoking, no pets, no kids. Available by the day, week or month. Online video tour. CSZ member discount. Contact: sfojames@pacbell.net.

## Oneg & Flower Sponsorship

These generous people sponsored the Oneg and/or flowers in recent weeks:

- 2-08 Oneg by **Judith Holiber and Kim Warsaw** in loving memory of Caryl Holiber
- 2-15 Oneg sponsored by the **GLBT Alliance of the San Francisco Jewish Community Federation** in honor of the National Union of Jewish LGBT Students' annual conference in SF.

## Condolences

**Anita Silver**, on the death of her uncles, Irv Dorf and Dr. Edward Singer.

**Ann Biderman**, on the death of her grandfather, Sol Biderman.

**Anna Lichtenberg**, on the death of her grandfather's cousin, Sarah Hamburger.

**Batya Kalis**, on the death of her sister-in-law, Eleanor Kalis.

**Randy Blaustein**, on the death of her friend, Christina Rohm.

**Gregory Eichler**, on the death of his colleague, Greg Lum.

**Stephen Shotland**, on the death of his father, Julian Shotland.

## Mar Anniversaries

- 4 Sara Haber and Beth Sousa
- 6 Tiela Chalmers and Hershey Hirschkop
- 11 Mark Oliver and Steven Polsky
- 15 Bernard Choden and Lois Scott
- 22 Michele Sullivan and Andrew Williamson
- 24 Geraldine Barr and Maxine Epstein
- 31 Jessie Ap'neva and Nina Wouk